

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Inventor(s): AVIDES MOREIRA et al.
 Appln. No.: 09/ 801,090
 Series Code ↑ Serial No. ↑

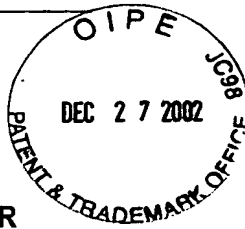
Filed: March 8, 2001
 Hon. Commissioner of Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

REPLY/AMENDMENT/LETTER

Date: December 27, 2002

Group Art Unit 1734
 Examiner: Sue A. Purvis
 Atty. Dkt. P 0278094 9780US
 M# Client Ref
 Appln. Title: CONNECTION WITH A COMPONENT
 FABRICATED OF A THERMOPLASTIC
 ELASTOMER



This is a reply/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes the herewith attachment of same date and subject which is incorporated hereinto by reference and the signature below is treated as the signature to the attachment in absence of a signature thereto.

FEE REQUIREMENTS FOR CLAIMS AS AMENDED

1. Small Entity claim	Claims remaining after amendment	Highest number previously paid for	Present Extra	Large/Small Entity	Additional Fee	Fee Code Lg/Sm
A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT made B. <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn C. <input type="checkbox"/> made herewith D. <input type="checkbox"/> made previously For B & C See Required Separate Paper (Pat-256)						
2. Total Effective Claims	14	**minus 20	0	x \$18/\$9 =	+ \$0	103/203
3. Independent Claims	3	***minus 3	0	x \$84/\$42 =	+ \$0	102/202
4. If amendment enters proper multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for first time (leave blank if this is a reissue application)	add		+ \$280/\$140 =	+ \$0		104/204
5. Original due Date: January 4, 2003	<input type="checkbox"/> NONE					
6. Petition is hereby made to extend the original due date to cover the date this response is filed for which the requisite fee is attached	(1 mo) (2 mos) (3 mos) (4 mos) (5 mos)	\$110/\$55 = \$400/\$200 = \$920/\$460 = \$1,440/\$720 = \$1,960/\$980 =	+ \$0			115/215 116/216 117/217 118/218 128/228
7. Enter any previous extension fee paid since above original due date and subtract	- \$0					
8.	Extension Fee		+ \$0			
9. If Terminal Disclaimer attached, add Rule 20(d) official fee	+ \$110/\$55		+ \$0	148/248		
10. If IDS attached requires Official Fee under Rule 97 (c),	+ \$180		+ \$0	126		
or if Rule 97(d) Request	+ \$180		+ \$0	126		
11. After-Final Request Fee per rules 129(a) and 17(r)	+ \$740/370		+ \$0	146/246		
12. No. of additional inventions for examination per Rule 129(b)	x \$740/370 ea		+ \$0	149/249		
13. Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	+ \$740/370		+ \$0	1179/1279		
14. Petition fee for			+ \$0			
15.	TOTAL FEE =		\$0			
16. *If the entry in this space is less than entry in next space, the "Present Extra" result is "0". 17. **If the "Highest number previously paid for" in this space is less than 20, write "20" in this space. 18. ***If the "Highest number previously paid for" in this space is less than 3, write "3" in this space.						
PLEASE CHARGE OUR DEP. ACCT						

Our Deposit Account No. 03-3975)

(Our Order No. 030268 0278094

C#

M#

CHARGE STATEMENT: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any missing or insufficient fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (missing or insufficiencies only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting Official Document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Accounting/Order Nos. shown above, for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

This CHARGE STATEMENT does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal sheet is filed.

Query: Is appeal deadline now? If so, file Notice of Appeals separately.

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP
 Intellectual Property Group

By Atty: Richard A. Steinberg

Reg. No. 26,588

P.O. Box 10500
 McLean, VA 22102
 Tel: (703) 905-2000

Sig:

Richard A. Steinberg

Fax: (703) 905-2500
 Tel: (703) 905-2039

Atty/Sec: RAS/DLL

NOTE: File this cover sheet in duplicate with PTO receipt (PAT-103A) and attachments

RECEIVED

DEC 30 2002

PAT-120 5/02

TC 1700



#11/C
P.L.H.
1-203

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No.: 6854

AVIDES MOREIRA et al.

Group Art Unit:

Appln. No.:

Examiner:

Filed:

Title:

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DEC 30 2002

TC 1700

* * * * *

AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 4, 2002, please amend the above
identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A process for fashioning a permanent connection
between at least 2 components, at least one of said components being a thermoplastic sealing
or connecting member obtained by molding a thermoplastic elastomeric material, at least one
other component being a non-sealing member, said permanent connection being located at a
desired location of said non-sealing member, comprising:

- a. stretching said sealing or connecting member;
- b. relaxing said stretched member from step (a);
- c. placing said member from step (b) at the desired location on said non-sealing
member; and
- d. exposing said members from step (c) to an increased temperature of at most
about 20 °C below the melting temperature of the thermoplastic elastomeric material.